

Fred Palmer: I call the meeting to order, sisters and brothers. And I would first like to introduce the Reverend Ian McMillan, minister of the Kirk United Church, and ask him to bestow the blessings on the meeting. Mr. McMillan.

Ian McMillan: We bow in prayer for a moment.

Fred Palmer: Everybody rise, please.

Ian McMillan: Almighty God, we ask for thy blessing upon us as we gather to discuss the work that is of very much concern to each one of us. We ask that in our discussion and our debate and our deliberations that we may be honest, that we may face every issue in a realistic manner, and that we look forward to the work of the coming year, that we may choose those men who will best serve the interest of all concerned. We remember too the fact that thy son Jesus Christ worked and that he has come to give us meaning to our life and to our work, that all that we might do might be to thy glory and that also that each one may benefit in a very real way as we contribute of our minds and our hands to the tasks that lie before us. Guide us in all that we do and say this night. Amen.

[Crowd responds "Amen."]

Fred Palmer: Thank you, Reverend McMillan. Now, sisters and brothers, this meeting is being called for the purpose – in accordance with the official notification that was mailed out to all members of this union, with the exception of those for whom we do not have the addresses at the office, which I would estimate to be at a dozen or so. I'll ask Brother White to read the official notification of this meeting, please.

Charlie White: Brother chairman, honored guests, sisters and brothers. The official notification of the nomination meeting. "This is a specially called meeting for the purpose of nominating members to run for election to office on the executive board of this local union. The meeting to be held on Friday, January 30, 1959 at 8:00 PM in the Ukrainian Hall, 11018 97th Street. Date: Friday, January 30, 1959. Place: Ukrainian Hall, 11018 97th Street. Time: 8:00 PM. Following nominations an election committee will be elected from the from the floor. This committee will take care of details on the election day in accordance with the International Constitution. The election date will be announced at this meeting after the nominations have been received." Thank you, Brother chairman.

Fred Palmer: Now, you can see by the notice the main purpose of this meeting being the nomination of officers, and that includes the full slate of officers: the president, the vice president, secretary treasurer, recording secretary, and three trustees. Now, it is our hope and desire to carry this out strictly in accordance with our international constitution and we will – after the nomination of officers has taken place there are other matters to be discussed. I would ask at this time that anyone wishing to speak on any matter that is being discussed to please come to the microphone in the alleyway here and speak clearly and slowly. The proceedings of this meeting are being taken on tape so that we have the full proceedings and we don't miss any of the discussion that takes place.

Now, I'll ask the acting secretary treasurer to read the bylaws of the local union, particularly referring to page seven, section seven: "Executive members and terms of office."

Charlie White: Brother chairman, section seven of the Local union 514 bylaws states as follows: "(A) The executive board shall consist of the following members: president, vice president, recording secretary, secretary treasurer, and three trustees. All of the above officers will be – shall be elected. The warden and conductor shall be chosen by the president. All paid personnel, with the exception of the secretary treasurer, shall be appointed by the executive board. (B) The terms of office shall be as follows: President and one trustee, four years. Vice president, recording secretary, one trustee, three years. Secretary treasurer, one trustee, five years. (C) Executive members who are absent for three consecutive regular executive meetings, except in the case of illness or other just cause, shall be replaced." Thank you, Brother chairman.

Fred Palmer: And now, I'll ask the brother to read the constitution, the International Constitution, page five, "Eligibility to office."

Charlie White: Brother chairman, "Eligibility to office," section four: "To be eligible for election to any office of a local union or the international union a member must be in continuous good standing for a period of two years prior to nomination for said office and must have worked at the craft as a member for a total period of two years. This does not apply to officers of newly organized local unions except as follows: In local unions organized for less than two years an individual must be a member and in continuous good standing and must have worked at the craft as a member for at least half of the period of time since the local union was chartered by the international union. The requirement of having worked at the craft as a member shall not be construed to prevent any member

holding local union office or employed as a full-time organizer for the international union at the time of the 1952 convention from continuing in office for the balance of the term thereof, or to prevent him from being eligible for subsequent elections to office in a local union or to election for office in the international union. To be eligible to hold office in a local union a member must be a citizen of the country in which his local union is located. Officers under this section shall also include members of local union executive boards, business representatives of local unions, delegates to central bodies, and delegates to all conventions of labor other than the conventions of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters."

Thank you, Brother chairman.

Fred Palmer:

And now I will ask the brother to read the constitution, page 81, article 21, "Local unions," section two; section three – the first sentence, the rest of which does not apply in this case; and sections four and five.

Charlie White:

Brother chairman, article 21 of the international constitution, "Local unions." Section one: "Each local union shall have the right to make such bylaws as it may deem advisable, providing they do not conflict with the laws of the international union. When a general president fails to approve the bylaws of the local union –" pardon me – "do not approve, fail to approve the bylaws, the local union may refer the matter to the general executive board."

Section two: "The officers of the local union shall consist of a president, vice president, recording secretary, secretary treasurer, and three trustees. These officers shall constitute the executive board of the organization."

Section four: "The conductor and the warden shall be appointed by the chair. All officers shall serve for a period of their election unless removed by the trustees – see article six, section five(b) – for incompetency or neglected duty, dishonesty, or other violations of this constitution."

Section five: "Nomination of officers shall take place in November or December. The election shall follow at the next meeting, provided, however, that if it is so voted by the membership at a regular or special meeting held for such purpose prior to the election meeting, the election may be held at such other place or places as –"

Audience: [Inaudible]

Fred Palmer: Brother, would you give the conductor your name, please, and register before you enter the meeting?

I'll ask again, brother. Will you please give the conductor your name and register properly?

Charlie White: Section five: "Nomination of officers shall take place in November or December. The election shall follow at the next meeting, provided, however, that if it is so voted by the membership at a regular or special meeting held for such purpose prior to the election meeting, the election may be held at such other place or places and at such other time not later than one month after the nomination meeting as may be designated by the local union executive board, in which case the election shall be by secret ballot to be placed in boxes, unless the executive board of the local union has authorized the use of some standard type of election mechanical device, ensuring a secret ballot by machine vote – the election box or machine, however, to be located at a place or places to be designated by the local union executive board for the convenience of the membership.

Balloting shall be open to suit the membership – to suit the convenience of the membership for a period not less than six hours between the hours of 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM. And it shall be the duty of the local union executive board to provide safeguards for the honest and fair conduct of such elections, including grant of the right of each nominee in such election of at least one observer at all times. The officers-elect may be installed at the same meeting at which they are elected, or if not elected at a meeting, at the next meeting following the election. When a nominee is unopposed at the regular – regularly designated nomination meeting, there shall be no necessity for the election of such nominee and he shall be declared duly elected at such nomination meeting effective as of the conclusion of the term of the previous incumbent. The general president is authorized to charge – to change the time and place of nomination and election provided for in this section."

Fred Palmer: Thank you, Brother White. Are there any questions from the sisters or brothers present here?

Dave Ericson: Brother _____, Brother Chairman.

Fred Palmer: Would you go to the microphone, please?

Dave Ericson: Brother Chairman, on a point of information, I'm just wondering, due to the fact that the local has been put under trusteeship and then the trustee is subsequently fired, now that the – all of the executives are _____ being suspended, I wonder if the constitution governing the election of officers to [inaudible] is not the constitution [inaudible].

Fred Palmer: I'll answer that, brother – we'll take that matter under advisement. But I should probably refer to a telegram received from our general president dated January 13th.

"To Teamsters Local Union 514, care of Charles Palmer, 10187 99th Street" – and so on. "This is to advise that the appointed officers of Local Union 514 shall conduct the affairs of said local union in their official capacity until such time as there is a duly constituted election of officers in accordance with the international constitution. This election to be held within 45 days of receipt of this wire. Signed, J.R. Hoffa, General President, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen, Helpers of America."

Now, I do not see anything written into the constitution which specifically puts this election into the category of that of a new local union. And subsequently, the ruling of the executive board on the matter has been to carry out the terms in accordance with our bylaws and the constitution with regard to terms of office, that no officer may be elected for a period of less than three years. Does that answer your question, brother?

Dave Ericson: It really doesn't. But I am [inaudible] –
[Crosstalk]

Fred Palmer: Brother _____, would you come to the mic, please? Because that is the only way we can be sure that we can have all of this down on the tape.

Dave Ericson: Well, Brother chairman, as long as it's written in the records, that's all I _____.

Fred Palmer: Are there any further questions?

Dave Ericson: Mr. Chairman, if I may ask the privilege of having a portion of that read again as to – in respect to the Executive Board having this right at the present time. I ask that that be read again.

- Fred Palmer:* You mean, the telegram, brother?
- Dave Ericson:* No, of the constitution.
- Fred Palmer:* Of the executive board having the right?
- Dave Ericson:* Of setting the procedure of *[inaudible]*.
- Fred Palmer:* Section five, I believe. Brother White, would you read that again?
- Charlie White:* Section five of the international constitution: "Nomination of officers shall take place in November or December. The election shall follow at the next meeting, provided, however, that if it is so voted by the membership at a regular or special meeting held for such purpose prior to the election meeting, the election may be held at such other place or places and at such other time not later than one month after the nomination meeting as may be designated by the local union executive board."
- Dave Ericson:* Thank you. That's far enough. I don't understand, Mr. Chairman. It says, "It may be." It doesn't say, "It shall be." Now, I've been a member of this organization for 30 years. An active member. On the board multiple times. We have never at any time taken that power in our hands. We've left it to the membership to choose as to how they wanted their election done. And I just want to record that *[inaudible]*.
- Fred Palmer:* Brother Ericson, for the information of the members here, it is our recommendation to the membership, whether I neglected to state this beforehand or not, that our recommendation being that we – this election be handled in accordance with our international constitution. And certainly, we would like to hear questions from the floor as to whether you feel that the method of election, which we will get into, is proper or not. Or any discussion that may arise on that particular point. For the present time we're reading only from the international constitution as regards to the eligibility of the membership – eligibility to office. Are there any further questions?
- Now, sisters and brothers, you will find that also in accordance with the constitution, in order to be eligible for office that the members must have paid their dues in advance for a period of two years. Now, that particular case, in our opinion, is almost impossible to adopt in this local because of the fact that our dues are received by check off from the various companies and it is almost impossible to have them received in the office in advance to

comply with that particular section of the constitution. So, it is our recommendation that all members whose dues are paid up to within three months of this date are considered members in good standing, and all members who have been in continuous good standing by having paid their dues up to within three months at all times for the period of 24 months prior to this data are eligible to run for office. And that is our recommendation. Is there any discussion on that?

Audience: I'd like to make a motion that they be adopted.

Audience: Speak up.

Fred Palmer: The brother's motion is that the recommendation be adopted. Is there a second?

Audience: Second.

Fred Palmer: Now, is there any discussion to the motion?

Audience: Question.

Fred Palmer: The question being called, all in favor say "aye."

[Ayes made]

Fred Palmer: Opposed, "no" or "nay."

[No audible nays made]

Fred Palmer: Carried and so ordered.

Now, as has been stated or at least read out from the election – the meeting call, after the nominations are held we will have – we will elect a committee to take charge of the election, the details of the election, and the setting of the date and so on. We will deal with that after the nominations.

With regards to the nomination the chair will call for further nominations three times, after which time the motion of nominations cease will be entertained for each particular position for office. Unless there are any further questions or discussions I would like to proceed with the nominations. Yes, brother.

Walter Doscoch: Mr. Chairman, I would like to –

[Crosstalk]

Fred Palmer: Brother, would you speak in the microphone, please?

Audience: Mr. Chairman, fellow workers, I think right now we're at a very important decision and I think we should think about the consideration that – I think there's quite a few of us that are familiar with the history of the trade labor movement, but there's a lot of us that aren't quite aware of what the labor movement offices – offers us in the way of opportunities. I think we should consider that. And also, the fact that the strength of our movement *[inaudible]* fellow workers as to the *[inaudible]*. And through their support is where our strength comes from. Unless we can get active support and participation in our activities we're not going to get that support. And I think we should consider that in the election of officers. I believe that regardless, if a fellow worker who is just a rank and file member has the will to do – the ambition that he is more than willing to be an effective officer due to the fact that he knows from actual experience all the problems and _____ of the workers and he can encourage more participation because of that, I think we should consider this very carefully. And all we have to do is go back over our own history just a few short years.

I think that if the rank and file are more ambitious in our own local affairs I'm sure that the union would never have gotten into the state it's in now. I don't think any of us are very proud of our history as of late. I hope that the members really consider that carefully when they're selecting officers.

Fred Palmer: Thank you, brother. I think that's a point very well taken. I think we –

[Applause]

I think we have tried to impress that upon the sisters and brothers at all times, that there's nothing like an active participation by the members to ensure a good and sound trade union.

Are there any further matters that you would like to discuss at this time? Hearing none, we will proceed with the nomination of officers. Brother Mills, would you take down the nominees, the nominations as they are made on the blackboard? I believe there's a piece of chalk there. If not, there's one on the window ledge.

[Crosstalk]

I will now call for nominations for the position of president.

Audience: I'll nominate Dave Graham.

Brother Neufeld: I nominate Fred Palmer.

Audience: I'll nominate –

[Crosstalk]

Fred Palmer: Brother Graham has been nominated. Would you give the brother a chance to write these down, please. Brother Palmer. Who else?

Audience: And Brother Daskoch.

Fred Palmer: And Brother Daskoch. Now – no T.

Rob Mills: No T.

Fred Palmer: We have a list compiled of who is eligible to run for office in accordance with our ledger at the office. I would ask Brother White to check these names to see if all are eligible to run for office.

Charlie White: Brother president, Brother Dave Graham is not eligible to run for office. Brother Fred Palmer is eligible to run for office. Brother Walter Daskoch is eligible to run for office.

Dave Graham: Brother chairman, I would like to know – I would like to have the reason why I'm not allowed to run for the office of president.

Fred Palmer: Brother Graham, do you have your dues book with you?

Dave Graham: Yes, I have.

Fred Palmer: May we check that to see – do you have proof that you have been a member of Local 514 for the necessary term?

Dave Graham: I think so. I've been a member since the first of February.

Fred Palmer: We have to be quite sure, Brother Graham.

Well, brothers, I think the constitution states quite clearly that a member has to be at least – in order to be eligible for office a member has to be in good standing for a period of – a minimum of two years. Brother Graham –

Charlie White: Prior to nomination.

Fred Palmer: What?

Charlie White: Prior to nomination.

Fred Palmer: Prior to nomination. That's right. Brother Graham has –

Dave Graham: Prior to nomination or prior to the election.

Fred Palmer: Prior to nomination. Prior to nomination, Brother Graham. Brother Graham has not been a member for the required term.

Dave Graham: What's the term – may I point out that when *[inaudible]* was elected as recording secretary, at that time he did not have the necessary qualifications. Even though he's the same – and I'm only lacking two days, Brother chairman of having the qualifications to run for president.

Fred Palmer: Well, Brother Graham, I don't answer that, that I was not president of that particular election that you refer to. As I stated previously, we want to comply with our international constitution at all times. What is the thinking of the membership on this matter?

[Crosstalk]

Actually, the – I'll have to retract that. I'm sorry. It is not the –

[Crosstalk]

I'm not authorized to deal on the matter. We're acting in accordance with the constitution. I believe that it is not my position to add – to change the constitution.

Dave Graham: Brother Palmer, may I point out that you have already changed the international constitution tonight, because the international constitution says quite definitely that no person shall run for office unless they be paid up on the first day of every month in advance. You will read that in your constitution, Brother Palmer, and you have already changed that and litigated that by motions.

Fred Palmer: Oh, yes, Brother Graham. That is true. In that particular instance, as I explained, that is a matter that cannot possible be changed in this particular situation because of the fact that the local is on

automatic check off. Now, this other situation is an entirely different matter.

Dave Graham: Mr. Chairman, I would like who gives you all the power to make the decisions when it's proper and not proper. Are you the king that can say all these things as to when they should be and should not be? And are they not done to please what you are trying to do, not what the members are trying to do also? I think it's quite obvious.

Fred Palmer: Well, brothers, I do not wish to enter into a debate on this matter. I have only got the constitution to go by and I'm interpreting it in as fair a matter as I possibly can, and I think that is quite obvious.

The ruling is that Brother Graham does not have the proper qualifications to run for office.

Dave Graham: Brother chairman, I wish to lodge a protest against this action. And I'd also like to make a motion that the nominations be postponed for two days allowing the constitution to be *[inaudible]*.

[Applause]

Fred Palmer: I'm sorry, brother, I can't accept that motion. This meeting was simply called for the purpose of the nomination of officers and that's what will be done. We'll ask Brother Doskoch, are you prepared to stand?

Walter Doskoch: Yes, I'll stand. *[Inaudible]*

Fred Palmer: As a matter of the fact I'll turn the chair over to Brother White –

Dave Ericson: Brother chairman, I wish to _____ this as being a farce and a mockery. I think this whole action – I think the action of the president tonight and putting forward – I think this nomination meeting was set deliberately for the January 30th knowing I was lacking two days of being able to run for president.

Fred Palmer: Brother Graham –

[Crosstalk]

Dave Ericson: I am walking out of this meeting tonight because I believe it's nothing but a farce and a mockery.

[Crosstalk and loud noise until 0:31:52]

Charlie White: Sergeant of the door to close the door, please.

[Door closes]

Brothers, as being – having the gavel passed over to myself for the purpose of asking Brother Palmer is he prepared to stand for office, I'll ask Brother Palmer, is he prepared to stand for the office of – running for the election of the position as president of this local union?

Fred Palmer: I'd like to thank Brother Newfeld for nominating me. I wish to state at this time that in view of my duties with the Western Conference of Teamsters I feel that I would not be able to give this union the amount of time and effort that is necessary from a president and I feel that you have other people who are very close to the union, to the office, as well as to the membership and their problems who are quite competent of carrying out the duties. Thank you very much again and I wish to decline.

[Applause]

Charlie White: Brothers, with your permission I would like to hand the gavel back to President – Brother Palmer.

Fred Palmer: Brother Daskoch has been elected by acclamation, duly elected in accordance with our constitution. And I would ask the brother – secretary treasurer to cast a white ballot for the election.

[Crosstalk]

Fred Palmer: So, the next position for nominations is that of vice president.

Audience: I nominate Rob Mills.

Fred Palmer: Rob Mills has been nominated.

Audience: *[Inaudible]*

Fred Palmer: Any further nominations? Any further nominations? Any further nominations?

Audience: I would like to nominate Charlie White.

Fred Palmer: Charlie White has been nominated.

Audience: *[Inaudible]*

Fred Palmer: By yourself? Any further nominations.

Hearing none, I declare nominations closed. Brother White, are you prepared to stand for election.

Charlie White: I thank the brother for nominating me but I decline.

Fred Palmer: Brother Mills, are you prepared to stand for the election?

Rob Mills: Yes, I will stand. *[Inaudible]*

Fred Palmer: Brother Mills being the only nominee prepared to stand I declare him duly elected as vice president.

Brother secretary treasurer, would you cast a white ballot?
[Inaudible] Brother Mills has been duly elected vice president.

Now for the position of secretary treasurer.

Audience: I will nominate Charlie White.

Fred Palmer: Brother White has been nominated. Any further nominations? Any further nominations? Any further nominations?

Hearing none, I declare nominations closed. Brother White, are you prepared to stand?

Charlie White: I am, Brother chairman-president. I guess I'll give a white ballot to me.

Fred Palmer: Brother White having been duly nominated with no opposition I declare Brother White duly elected.

Now for the position of recording secretary. Nominations are now open for that position.

Audience: I nominate Ken Cawthra.

Fred Palmer: Ken Cawthra has been nominated for recording secretary.

Rob Mills: How do you spell that?

Fred Palmer: C-A-W-T-H-R-A.

Rob Mills: C-A-W...?

Fred Palmer: T-H-R-A. Any further nominations? Are there any further nominations? Are there any further nominations?

Hearing no further nominations I'll declare nominations closed.
Brother Cawthra, are you prepared to stand for the position of recording secretary?

Brother Cawthra: Yes, I am.

Fred Palmer: You are? Brother Cawthra is prepared to stand for the nomination. We will wait until the rest of the brothers that are coming in are in the hall. Brother Cawthra, having been nominated unopposed, I now declare him duly elected in accordance with the constitution. Brother secretary treasurer, would you cast a white ballot for Brother Cawthra?

There are three trustees up for election for five-, four-, and three-year terms. I will call for the nomination of the five-year-trustee.

Audience: I nominate Brother Mehan.

Audience: I will nominate Pat Clerkin. But he's just gone to the bathroom and *[inaudible]*.

Fred Palmer: Now, Brother –

Audience: Mehan.

Fred Palmer: Brother Mehan has been nominated. M-E-H-A-N.

Audience: M-E-H-A-N.

Fred Palmer: Brother Pat Clerkin has been nominated. Brother C-L-E-R-K-I-N. Are there any further nominations?

Audience: Brother Cadatz.

Fred Palmer: Brother Cadatz has been nominated.

[Crosstalk]

Any further nominations? Are there any further nominations?
Hearing none, I'll declare nominations closed.

Brother Cadatz, are you prepared to stand for election?

Brother Cadatz: Yes, Brother chairman.

Fred Palmer: Brother Cadatz will stand. Brother Clerkin is not here.

Audience: He just left. *[Inaudible]* But he will accept –

Fred Palmer: Well, he can come back. He can come back. Will he accept his nomination?

Audience: I'm positive he will.

Fred Palmer: Brother Clerkin will accept his nomination. Is he in the hall or is he –

Audience: No, he just left because he was afraid to miss the ride, you know?

Fred Palmer: He had a ride home, did he?

Audience: Yeah, so the *[inaudible]*.

Fred Palmer: Brother Mehan, are you prepared to stand?

Brother Mehan: Yes, I will stand.

Fred Palmer: For the position of five-year trustee we have Brothers Mehan, Clerkin, and Cadatz. For election of five-year trustee.

Audience: Brother Mehan is five years?

Fred Palmer: Yes, they're all five years? We will have to hold an election for that position.

Audience: Brother chairman?

Fred Palmer: Yes.

Audience: Can you nominate somebody by acclamation who is not here that accepted a nomination?

Fred Palmer: By acclamation? Who are you referring to specifically, brother?

Audience: Brother Clerkin.

Fred Palmer: No, he has not been elected by acclamation because there are two other brothers running for that position. That will have to – we will

have to hold an election on that particular position. And he will have his opportunity to decline or to run.

Charlie White: There are two men running, Cadatz and Mehan, along with Clerkin.

Fred Palmer: I will call for nominations for the position of four-year trustee.

Audience: I nominate Bill Fencott.

Fred Palmer: Brother Fencott has been nominated. Fencott: F-E-N-C-O-T-T. Are there any further nominations? Any further nominations?

Audience: I'll nominate Gil Bevan.

Fred Palmer: Who?

Audience: Gil Bevan.

Fred Palmer: Brother Bevan.

Rob Mills: Bevan?

Fred Palmer: Bevan.

Rob Mills: B-E-V-A-N?

Fred Palmer: B-E-V-A-N. Any further nominations? Hearing none, I declare nominations closed. Brothers, I have overlooked a very important point on the question of trustees for the five-year nom. With the nominations for the position of vice president, recording secretary, and secretary treasurer we all know these brothers have been in office before and are eligible for membership. If there's anybody in doubt we can have that clarified by our list. But on the five-year trustee we have Brothers Mehan and Clerkin.

Charlie White: And Cadatz.

Fred Palmer: And Cadatz. Would you check those names with our list, Mr. Secretary?

Charlie White: Cadatz. Okay.

Fred Palmer: Brother Cadatz is eligible. Brother Thomas Mehan?

Charlie White: Yes.

- Fred Palmer:* Eligible. Brother Mehan is eligible. Brother Clerkin? Brother Pat Clerkin is eligible. Brother Clerkin is eligible.
- All right. We'll then go on to the four-year trustee, Brother Fencott and Brother Bevan. Check those, please.
- Charlie White:* Brother Fencock is okay.
- Fred Palmer:* Brother Fencock is eligible. Brother Bevan? Brother Bevan, he worked for Motor Truck Express. Do you know?
- Charlie White:* Brother chairman, Brother Bevan is not on the list for eligible for office – eligibility for office.
- Fred Palmer:* Do you have proof of your membership with you? Do you have your dues?
- Brother Bevan:* No, I haven't been in two years.
- Fred Palmer:* You haven't been in two years. Well, I'm sorry, you're not eligible to run for office, then. So, strike Brother Bevan's name off for four-year trustee. Nominations are closed for the position of four-year trustee. Brother Fencott, are you prepared to stand for the position?
- Brother Fencott:* I accept.
- Fred Palmer:* You accept? There being no opposition to Brother Fencott I will then declare him duly elected for the position of four-year trustee and ask Brother secretary treasurer to cast a white ballot.
- The only other position left open is that of three-year trustee. Nominations are now open for that position.
- Audience:* I nominate Brother Rinn.
- Fred Palmer:* Brother Rinn has been nominated.
- Audience:* I nominate Troy Bender.
- Fred Palmer:* Brother Bender has been nominated.
- Rob Mills:* Rinn?

Fred Palmer: Rinn. R-I-N-N. And Bender. B-E-N-D-E-R. Are there any further nominations? Are there any further nominations? Hearing no further nominations I'll declare nominations closed.

Brother Bender –?

Charlie White: Brother Rinn –

Fred Palmer: Brother Bender, will you accept the position, the nomination?

Rob Mills: Is he eligible?

Fred Palmer: Pardon me, before we get you to make your decision we'll find out if you're both eligible.

Charlie White: Both eligible, Brother chairman.

Fred Palmer: Both eligible. Okay, Brother Bender, do you accept?

Brother Bender: I do.

Fred Palmer: Brother Rinn? Where is Brother Rinn? Do you accept?

Brother Rinn: I do.

Fred Palmer: All right. We will have to conduct an election for that position as well. Brothers, that completes the nomination of officers.

Charlie White: What a privilege, Brother chairman. Brother chairman, honored guests, and just brothers at this time. I just feel like it is my duty to get up on my feet at this time and offer an apology to the brothers that left this meeting tonight. I was never so disgusted in all my life to see fellow members, brothers – we call them brothers – to come to a meeting such as this where an election is to be taking place –

Fred Palmer: A nomination meeting.

Charlie White: – a nomination meeting such as this for an election that is to come up and hear the four positions. All of us who have worked at the – as full-time officers of the union and have been experienced in executive business before have felt that due to all of the publicity that we've had in the past that this matter could be settled across an election table and by ballots. I feel very concerned at this time and very strong about the particular situation here tonight, I feel that I've been put in a very unfair position to have to accept the position of the secretary treasurer position on the executive board by

acclamation when I felt that I wanted to earn it by your vote. And I feel very disgusted at the members that call themselves members and brothers of yours that walked out and left you here to carry the bundle. Thank you, Brother chairman.

[Applause]

Fred Palmer: Brother Fencott?

Brother Fencott: Brother White is *[inaudible]*.

[Laughter]

Fred Palmer: Both of them.

Walter Daskoch: Can I say something?

Fred Palmer: Yes. Brother Daskoch, you want to say a few words?

Walter Daskoch: Brothers – sorry there's no sisters around.

Audience: You can tell us a joke then.

[Applause]

Fred Palmer: You don't need it?

Walter Daskoch: I don't need it.

Fred Palmer: You don't need it.

Walter Daskoch: Well, brothers, when we leave this hall tonight you can bank on one thing, that we're going to have a fight on our hands. What we're going to have to do from here on in is save this union. If we want a union, if we want a union to work for us, then we're going to have to work together as if we never worked – like we ever worked before in our life we're going to have to work now. Because out of this meeting a bunch of fellow left. A lot of them left because they were thinking with their hearts instead of their heads. This is something that we cannot afford to do in a union at any time because there's too much at stake. There's a lot of kids that we've got to feed. There's homes that we've got to pay for. Everything that it takes to make a living. All of this is at stake right now.

And when we leave here tonight we've got to leave as one. When we come back tomorrow we're going to be one. Five years from now we're going to be one. And we're going to build this union and make something out of it. It's the only way. With unity and brotherhood and sincerity. Make us feel part of this union. We're part of it. _____ part of it. Be part of it. And brothers, I'll tell you that we're going to build a union here that will be second to none. Thank you.

[Applause]

Fred Palmer:

Brother, would you just give me about two minutes? I'd like to say a couple of things before you get on the mic?

Now, I can quite understand the position of some of the brothers who left this meeting, and I'm quite pleased to see the large number that stayed behind. Now, we all know there has been a lot of unfavorable publicity for a number of years now, and management and the press and radio have been taking full advantage of the situation. Now, a lot of things have been said by various people to the press. We at all times felt that the problems of this local union were our problems. The problems of you and me and the brothers within the organization. We have purposefully kept information away from the press because they're not friends of ours. They're representing big business. And any time that they can take advantage of us they'll do it.

So, for that reason we have tried to keep in touch with the membership, to keep them well-informed. And I can assure you from the experience I've had with the people who have been nominated tonight, at least the majority of the nominees, that they are sincere. They're out to do a job for the members. And they're going to make a lot of changes in this local union. They're going to inform the members of the activities of this union, keep in touch with them at all times, and work hard to build an organization that we haven't had.

Now, this Local 514 has been in existence for some 30-odd years. We have a potential membership in this area of somewhere between 20,000 and 30,000. How many members have we got in this local? About 700?

Charlie White:

What's right here in this hall: 800.

Fred Palmer:

That's right. Now, we've got to look to the future. And I think that you have nominated the kind of people tonight that can look into

the future and that can build an organization for you, because you've got to have these other people in the union to protect your own interests. Thank you.

Brother, would you take the mic?

[Applause]

Audience:

Mr. Chairman, all I'm going to do is just endorse what has been said. I think if our fathers and grandfathers had taken the position *[inaudible due to coughing]* I don't think the labor movement would have ever gotten to first base. I think that the only way that we should ever get anyplace is to stay here and fight whether we like it or not. That's our only hope. Our only thing that's going to make our conditions any better, our _____ any better is the members themselves. If they can't stick together they'll be hamstrung just like this *[inaudible]*. And I think that a lot of us should remember that, should remember the brothers who built the labor movement up to what it is now. And as far as the future goes, why, it's unlimited. And the possibilities the labor union offers to rank and file members who take advantage of it is almost unlimited.

I think that there's nothing in this world that's more _____ to us than *[inaudible]*. And outside the labor union, that's our *[inaudible]*. We've got to talk to these members that have left and try to win their support if we can because God knows we're in bad opposition now, and then walking out tonight just makes us that much worse. So, let's all leave here tonight with that in mind, that we're going to try and encourage these members to come back, that whether they like it or not the only way we're going to make it any better is right at a union meeting.

[Applause]

Fred Palmer:

Anyone else that wishes to make any comments at this time?

Audience:

Yes. Brother chairman, I want to know where Mr. Scott is tonight.

Fred Palmer:

Brother Scott from –

Audience:

Brother Scott.

Fred Palmer:

– from Joint Council.

Audience:

Right.

- Fred Palmer:* I have not had any word as to why he's not here. I do understand that he had a slight accident, a fall or something.
- Audience:* He had recourse then. Mr. Scott is supposed to be in – at this meeting, an international – and the Western Conference, represent them.
- Fred Palmer:* Well, that –
- Audience:* [Inaudible] to discuss this meeting.
- Fred Palmer:* Well, I know where you got the reports from, Brother. Brother Scott had taken it upon himself to notify the membership of this meeting. And I'll read the letter that he has distributed, or at least that Brother Ericson has distributed to the membership.
- Audience:* Can you _____ why Mr. Scott was not here himself? Apparently he was appointed to be able to [inaudible].
- Fred Palmer:* Well, I can only go by what action he has taken. And maybe this will clarify the position to you.
- Charlie White:* Brother chairman, if I may be permitted to answer the brother's question there? The brother has asked why Brother Scott of Calgary of Joint Council 90 is not here in attendance tonight? Is that the question, brother?
- Audience:* Not necessarily seeking why. But according to the notice that was distributed – why was there two notices? Are we working in one union or are we working in a separate union altogether – I mean, two groups? That's what I want to know.
- Charlie White:* Brother chairman, I have the brother's question in hand right now. The matter of the two notices that some of the members saw boils down to this, that on January the 13th when the international president advised Brother Palmer here, our president, that he was removed as the trustee of Local 514 and that the appointed officers in their present capacity would carry out the affairs of the local union until such time as a constitutional election was held, which had to be held within 45 days of the receipt of the wire that we received on January the 15th. The executive board at that particular time received the same particular wire that I just mentioned with the same wordings. This wire was read out to you earlier in this meeting tonight.

At that time, Brother Scott in Calgary also received a wire stating that he was to supervise the affairs of Local 514 as the secretary of the Joint Council 90, which is our parent body in Alberta and Saskatchewan. And I mean "supervise" as to guide us. It was to see that we carried on the business of the local union in accordance with the constitution. And a follow-on in the same telegram stated that he was to assist us in the handling of the nominations and the election of officers which the general president had instructed us to carry out and to do. This we were doing.

Now, on the 13th day of January, when these two wires came to the local union office Brother Scott's wire was sent to his office at Local 987 in Calgary. At that particular time Brother Scott was in Edmonton. He did not receive his wire until he returned back to Calgary. One week later, six days later, on the 19th of the month, Brother Scott came to Edmonton. At 9:00 in the morning he came to the office of the local union with full intention, purposes of taking over the local union. He even instructed me that I was to either be removed from my position as appointed secretary or allow Brother Dave Ericson to return to the local union office on full pay, at which time I strongly objected to it on the basis that I had not perceived any further instructions from our general president that Bob Scott was appointed with the power or the authority to do what he was professing to try and do at that particular time. He came in there with the idea that he was another trustee, and we know that those words are very dangerous words due to the circumstances that this local is in right now.

And therefore, Brother Scott bowed his head and walked out of the office gracefully after about two or three hours of hassling and said that he agreed that the wire was a little vague. But the wire was worded in a manner that he was to give us all the assistance but we would carry on the business, we would run our election, just exactly as what we're trying to do tonight.

Consequently, at that time Brother Scott attended our – a specially called executive meeting on that particular night. He gave the executive board the same impression. And after Brother Scott left and caught the plane back to Calgary the same executive board sat in session and decided to write to Brother Harford and tell him exactly what Scott was trying to do in here and to dominate us as a one-man. That letter took two pages to construct and set up and send to the general president. That was sent out that particular night and we got an answer two days later, of which I would like to read the answer to you. I won't read the letter because it's quite lengthy, but the answer that we received – we asked in the letter to

the general president that they – that Brother Scott's position be clarified for all concerned for the simple reason that we were acting under his instructions and we were doing everything in our power to carry out a democratic election as he had so directed.

And therefore, this is the answer that we received. It's addressed to Brother – to Mr. Robert Scott, President Joint Council number 90, 227 11th Avenue, East Calgary, Alberta. "Dear Sir and Brother. Enclosed please find a copy of the letter from officers of Local 514, which is self-explanatory. In view of this letter I would appreciate you making it very clear and plain to the executive board that you are acting only in a supervisory capacity and that they are empowered to conduct the affairs of the local union under the international constitution during the interim period between now and the forthcoming election."

There was our instruction there. The general president didn't let us down. We were doing nothing to violate the constitution. We were carrying out the business of the local union directly in accordance with our constitution. Brother Scott felt that he was going to put something over on us. What he thought he was going to gain, I don't know. And maybe some of this, brother, will answer some of your questions or some of the thoughts in your mind.

After receiving that letter – that letter was dated January the 21st, which we received on the 23rd. At that particular time, the notice that you have seen – which was not an official notice, was not marked as such as an official notice, it was not even on letterhead paper, there was nothing official about it whatsoever, it was on a plain sheet of paper – Bill Smith –

[End of Audio]